

U.S. Serial No. 09/462,845

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Date: December 18, 2001

By:

*Carol A. See*  
Carol A. See

PATENT  
Docket No. GC382-US

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of )

David A. Estell )

Group Art Unit: 1652

Serial No.: 09/462,845 )

Examiner: Yong Pak

Filed: January 13, 2000 )

For: Proteases from Gram-Positive  
Organisms )AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This communication is in response to the Restriction Requirement (Paper No. 8) mailed September 27, 2001 in the above-identified patent application. A Two-Month Extension of Time is being filed concurrently herewith. Therefore, this Response is being filed on or before the current due date of December 27, 2001. Reconsideration of the above-referenced patent application is respectfully requested in light of the following Amendments and Remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

~~Please cancel claims 8 and 12-16.~~

Please replace claims 1, 9 and 11 with the clean copy of those claims set out below. A separate sheet is attached showing the changes made to the claims.

*Sup B1*  
*a1* 1. A gram-positive microorganism having a mutation or deletion of part or all of one or more of the genes encoding SP1, said mutation or deletion resulting in the inactivation of the SP1 proteolytic activity.

GC382 RR

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